

**REMARKS**

Claims 2 to 10 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2 to 4, 7, 8 and 10 have been amended for which there is support in the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed. Claims 1 and 11 to 20 have been canceled without prejudice.

Reconsideration of the Examiner's decisions and reexamination of this application are respectfully requested.

**The §102 rejections:**

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7 and 8 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Nakano et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2005/0266685 (hereafter "Nakano:").

The Examiner pointed to Figure 4 and paragraphs 0039 and 0040 as supposedly anticipating claims 1, 2, 4, 7.

Applicants disagree with the Examiner in that Nakano merely discloses heat lamps above and below the wafer plus a process for controlling the lamps. There is, however, no disclosure in Nakano of "supplying more than half of a total heating power to a lower surface of said workpiece" as claimed by Applicants.

In order to further along the prosecution of the instant application, Applicants are canceling claim 1 and making claims 2, 4, and 7 dependent on claims having allowable subject matter, thereby rendering moot the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 and 7 under 35 USC §102(e).

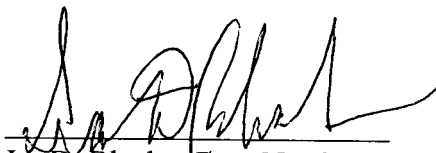
Allowable subject matter:

The Examiner's indication that claims 3, 6 and 9 to 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form is acknowledged. In this regard, claims 3 and 10 have been made independent and the remaining dependent claims have been consolidated to be dependent upon claims 3 or 10.

Summary:

In view of all of the preceding remarks, all of claims 2 to 10 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner finds this application deficient in any respect, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's earliest convenience to resolve such deficiency.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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